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RR RUEHBC RUEHIHL RUEHKUK  
DE RUEHC #4338 2671730  
ZNY SSSSS ZZH  
R 241717Z SEP 07  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 2994  
RUEHKUK/REO KIRKUK 2021  
RUEHIHL/REO HILLAH 0504  
RUEHBC/REO BASRAH 2180

S E C R E T STATE 134338

SIPDIS

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/21/2032  
TAGS: PINR IZ  
SUBJECT: (C) KUDOS FOR REPORTING ON IRAQ'S LEADERS

REF: A. BAGHDAD 002615: (FROM PRT WASIT)  
IB. BAGHDAD 002689  
IC. BAGHDAD 002691 (FROM PRT NINEWA)  
ID. BASRAH 000068  
IE. BAGHDAD 002730 (FROM PRT NINEWA)  
IF. BAGHDAD 002847 (FROM PRT BAGHDAD)  
IG. BAGHDAD 002867  
IH. BAGHDAD 002928 (FROM RRT ERBIL)  
II. HILLAH 000121  
IJ. BAGHDAD 003026  
IK. BAGHDAD 003060

Classified By: SUZANNE MCCORMICK, DIR., INR/I. REASON: 1.4(C).

(S/NF) INR/B GREATLY APPRECIATES POSTS' REPORTING ON IRAQ'S LEADERS. REFS CONTAINED BIOGRAPHIC NOTES AND PERSONALITY TIDBITS THAT FORM THE CORE OF INR/B'S BIOGRAPHIC REPORTS. FOR EXAMPLE, REF B INCLUDED INFORMATION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MINISTER JAHID'S ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CAPABILITY THAT WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO THE NEXT UPDATE OF HIS BIOGRAPHIC REPORT. SIMILARLY, REF J PROVIDED INFORMATION ON FORMER HIGHER EDUCATION MINISTER UJAYLI'S ACADEMIC BACKGROUND AND ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CAPABILITY. REF D OFFERED INSIGHTS ON WHAT IS WHAT LIKE TO MEET FACE TO FACE WITH BADR LEADER RASHID, MOST NOTABLY HIS "SHREWDED AND DEADPAN" DEMEANOR. REF G PROVIDED AN OUTSTANDING OVERVIEW OF PRIME MINISTER MALIKI'S STAFF AND THE CHALLENGES THAT THEY FACE IN TRYING TO DO THEIR JOBS. INR/B ALSO APPRECIATED PRT REPORTING ON PROVINCIAL-LEVEL LEADERS, ESPECIALLY SINCE POLICYMAKERS ARE INCREASINGLY FOCUSED ON WHAT IS HAPPENING OUTSIDE OF BAGHDAD. INR/B ENCOURAGES POSTS TO CONTINUE THEIR OUTSTANDING RECORD OF BIOGRAPHIC REPORTING.

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